

Proclamation

The Wai`alae Japanese School was established in 1953 by the Reverend George Fujita, one of the first Japanese speaking priests in Hawai`i.

The mission of the Wai`alae Japanese School was to further the culture and language for second-generation children of Japanese ancestry. Today, the school has achieved this goal by teaching as many as three generations of families.

The Wai`alae Japanese School began at the Wai`alae Baptist Church, and has since moved to Waialae Elementary School.

After the passing of Reverend Fujita in 1997, his wife continued his legacy, and now serves as the school's Principal. Along with Mrs. Fujita, most of the teachers have taught at Wai`alae Japanese School for 30 to 50 years, with the shortest-term teacher being a part of the faculty for 17 years.

The Wai`alae Japanese School is proud to host two significant events each year. The Memorial Day picnic is an exciting event for the entire family. Families play games reminiscent to the first generation Japanese who migrated to our islands in the early 1900s.

The end of the year graduation ceremony highlights the work done by students from kindergarten through ninth grade, with performances by each class, recognition awards and presentation of diplomas to the graduating class.


On June 2, 2006, the Wai`alae Japanese School will hold its 53rd graduation ceremony. This is a tremendous success story, and we congratulate the students and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor of the State of Hawai`i, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor, do hereby proclaim June 2, 2006, as

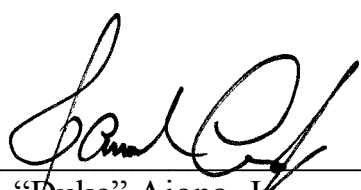
WAI`ALAE JAPANESE SCHOOL DAY

in Hawai`i, and thank the staff for their dedicated efforts to perpetuate and promote the Japanese language and traditions in our islands.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai`i, this twenty-second day of May 2006.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai`i



James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai`i